



WELCOME
to
RIVERSIDE
CHURCH

Big Lake
Buffalo
Sauk Rapids

July 19, 2026

SG

Your group matters.

DISCUSSION GUIDE

- Icebreaker -

What do you think Jesus was like as a little boy?

1. In **Ephesians 2:1-3**, we are told of a reality we all are born into, a spiritually dead reality where we have no chance of life apart from outside intervention. Why is it important for us to believe this about ourselves and why do you think we struggle to do so?
2. **Ephesians 2:4** opens with two words found in nearly every translation: "But God." In an instant, He ushers in a reality shift — from death to life. Describe the moment you were made alive in Christ — what happened when you first chose to believe and accept it?
3. We all have hurts, habits, or hangups — forgetfulness of our need for grace, difficulties in life, self-centeredness, hurts, or fear — that can crowd out God's daily grace. What helps you push through those moments and stay aware of His grace as you follow Jesus?
4. In **Ephesians 2:7**, he says, "So God can point to us in all future ages as examples of the incredible wealth of his grace and kindness toward us, as shown in all he has done for us who are united with Christ Jesus."
Challenge: Set a 3-minute timer. List as many ways as you can think of that God has shown you grace and kindness. When time's up, share your lists and cross out duplicates — whoever has the most left wins! Who is one person you can share in word or deed God's kindness with this week?
5. **Ephesians 2:10** says that we've been created anew, "so we can do the good things he planned for us." Now that you're alive in Christ, what good things does God have prepared for you to do? If you don't know, consider praying about this with your group.

PERSONAL GUIDE

This Personal Guide has been adapted from Professor Grant Horner's Bible Reading System.

Day One: John 14; Psalm 26

Day Two: Deuteronomy 23; Proverbs 21

Day Three: 1 Chronicles 4; 2 Corinthians 9

Day Four: Revelation 3; Daniel 5

Day Five: Ecclesiastes 10; Acts 8



"Alive to God"

Pastor Kyle Asmus | July 19, 2026

Ephesians 2:1-10, NLT

Once you were dead because of your disobedience and your many sins. You used to live in sin, just like the rest of the world, obeying the devil—the commander of the powers in the unseen world. He is the spirit at work in the hearts of those who refuse to obey God. All of us used to live that way, following the passionate desires and inclinations of our sinful nature. By our very nature we were subject to God's anger, just like everyone else. But God is so rich in mercy, and he loved us so much, that even though we were dead because of our sins, he gave us life when he raised Christ from the dead. (It is only by God's grace that you have been saved!) For he raised us from the dead along with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms because we are united with Christ Jesus. So God can point to us in all future ages as examples of the incredible wealth of his grace and kindness toward us, as shown in all he has done for us who are united with Christ Jesus. God saved you by his grace when you believed. And you can't take credit for this; it is a gift from God. Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done, so none of us can boast about it. For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago.

Because of _____ I'm _____ to God.

Who We Were (see **Ephesians 2:1-3**)

What God Did (see **Ephesians 2:4-6**)

We are _____ to God _____ of God.

If you're a follower of Jesus, you've been _____ alive,
_____ up, and are now _____ with Him!

To feel alive to God is to be _____ in God and in what
_____.

Why God Did It (see **Ephesians 2:7-10**)

God made us alive to _____ His grace.

If you're a follower of Jesus... _____!

Tell us about the next step you took today in your spiritual journey!

App: Message Notes/Connect Card **Or:** MYRC.LINK/CONNECT



"Alive to God"

Pastor Kyle Asmus | July 19, 2026

Ephesians 2:1-10, NLT

Once you were dead because of your disobedience and your many sins. You used to live in sin, just like the rest of the world, obeying the devil—the commander of the powers in the unseen world. He is the spirit at work in the hearts of those who refuse to obey God. All of us used to live that way, following the passionate desires and inclinations of our sinful nature. By our very nature we were subject to God's anger, just like everyone else. But God is so rich in mercy, and he loved us so much, that even though we were dead because of our sins, he gave us life when he raised Christ from the dead. (It is only by God's grace that you have been saved!) For he raised us from the dead along with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms because we are united with Christ Jesus. So God can point to us in all future ages as examples of the incredible wealth of his grace and kindness toward us, as shown in all he has done for us who are united with Christ Jesus. God saved you by his grace when you believed. And you can't take credit for this; it is a gift from God. Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done, so none of us can boast about it. For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago.

Because of grace I'm alive to God.

Who We Were (see **Ephesians 2:1-3**)

What God Did (see **Ephesians 2:4-6**)

We are alive to God because of God.

If you're a follower of Jesus, you've been made alive, raised up, and are now seated with Him!

To feel alive to God is to be grounded in God and in what He has done for you.

Why God Did It (see **Ephesians 2:7-10**)

God made us alive to show off His grace.

If you're a follower of Jesus... Get to work!

Tell us about the next step you took today in your spiritual journey!

App: Message Notes/Connect Card **Or:** MYRC.LINK/CONNECT